

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of assembling a modular turret cage for use in connection with a capping machine adapted to apply caps to beverage containers, comprising the steps of:

providing a circular-shaped base mounting plate;

providing a circular-shaped top mounting plate spaced from the base mounting plate;

connecting the base mounting plate and top mounting plate with a plurality of panel sections spaced around the circumference of the base mounting plate and the top mounting plate; and

individually and removably securing the respective panel sections to the base mounting plate and the top mounting plate to form the turret cage.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the capping machine includes a stationary cap, and the method includes the step of rotatably receiving a top end of the turret cage in the stationary cap member.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the panel sections are each substantially U-shaped in horizontal cross section and have a center portion and two outward projection fins defining a recess therebetween, with the capping machine including a plurality of spindles, and wherein the method further includes the steps of receiving the spindles into the recesses defined by the respective panel sections and preventing outward movement of the spindles with a cover plate attached to a top end of each of the panel sections.